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UNCLAS TEGUCIGALPA 002015

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FOR WHA/PD (OHILTON), WHA/CEN (TKELLY), PM, AND INL

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION ON THE VISIT OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
DONALD H. RUMSFELD TO HONDURAS, AUGUST 20, 2003

1. Editorial in San Pedro Sula-based liberal daily "La Prensa" on 8/25 entitled "The agenda". "The fact that the issue of narcotrafficking came up during the recent visit of the U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is undeniable. What we

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don't know is the scope of these discussions and the proposals presented by Rumsfeld to the Maduro administration."

"Despite the fact that President Maduro denied a future installation of an anti-drug base in our territory, there are still some doubts in the air, because Secretary Rumsfeld came to Honduras after he visited Colombia. It's evident that the U.S. government makes a lot of demands, but doesn't always help to achieve what it wants."

Palmer